

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/657,526	SANDSTROM, TORBJORN
	Examiner Brandi N Thomas	Art Unit 2873

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to _____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. The drawings filed on 08 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>6/14/04</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

RICKY MACK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art taken either singularly or in combination fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitations of the independent claim(s), in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. The prior art fails to teach a combination of all the claimed features as presented in claim(s) 1-9, wherein the claimed invention comprises a method for compensating the impact of at least one defective pixel with a known position in at least one spatial light modulator (SLM) having a plurality of modulating elements (pixels) when creating a pattern of said at least one SLM on a work piece covered at least partly with a layer sensitive to electromagnetic radiation, comprising the actions of: projecting an image of said at least one SLM on a detector arrangement to measure a dose of radiation; illuminating by a radiation source said at least one SLM; identifying a position of the defective pixel; and performing a compensation of said defective pixel by at least one of the most adjacent pixels in said at least one SLM, as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sandstrom (6618185 B2) discloses a method for compensating the impact of at least one defective pixel with a known position in a spatial light modulator (SLM) when creating pattern of the SLM on a work piece covered with a layer sensitive to electromagnetic radiation.

Sandstrom (6428940 B1) discloses a method for creating a microlithographic pattern on a workpiece, for increased resolution and image fidelity.

Sandstrom (6399261 B1) discloses a method for creating a pattern on a workpiece with better pattern fidelity and dimensional precision.

Sandstrom (6072500) discloses an apparatus for creating a pattern on a workpiece, such as a photomask, a semiconductor wafer, an electronic interconnect device, etc., whereby a pattern with less visible edges is created.

Foran et al. (6072500) discloses an image processing system is described that receives polygonal image data at the direction of a processor and develops antialiased image data for display on a raster scanned display.

Markandey et al. (5504504) discloses a method and display system for reducing the visual impact of defects present in an image display.

Sandstrom (5495279) discloses a method for exposure of patterns described in one or several databases containing geometrical descriptions of said patterns by means of writing with a focused laser light onto substrates which are photosensitive at the wavelength of the laser light.

Florence (5148157) discloses an invention that controls the amplitude and phase modulation of light independently and simultaneously.

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Wells et al. (5123085) discloses a scan conversion process is performed on a polygon using a single pass technique.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brandi N Thomas whose telephone number is 571-272-2341. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on 571-272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BNT

BNT
June 23, 2004



RICKY MACK
PRIMARY EXAMINER